

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

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TAGS: PFOR, XF, IS, US

SUBJECT: DINITZ INTERVIEW

1. AFTERNOON PRESS SEPT 21 CARRIES VERBATIM INTERVIEW WITH AMBASSADOR DINITZ (EMBASSY TRANSLATION BEING POUCHED). MAIN POINTS DINITZ MADE ARE AS FOLLOWS.
2. KISSINGER APPOINTMENT IS GOOD BECAUSE IT PULLS TOGETHER US FOREIGN AFFAIRS MACHINERY; ALSO, IT PROBABLY MEANS SHIFT FROM DARING MOVES TO MORE CONVENTIONAL DIPLOMACY.
3. KISSINGER APPOINTMENT PROBABLY NOT SIGNIFICANT FROM MIDDLE EAST, WHERE CURRENT STAGNATION RESULTS FROM HARDENING OF EGYPTIAN OPPOSITION TO NEGOTIATIONS, SOMETHING WHICH KISSINGER MAY BE UNABLE TO CHANGE.
4. RE DAYAN'S REPORTED VIEW ISRAEL SHOULD GIVE US SOME IDEAS TO WORK WITH IN MIDDLE EAST DIPLOMACY, DINITZ HAD JUST HAD LONG TALKS WITH DAYAN, FOUND THEIR THINKING HARMONIOUS, AND OF COURSE GOI AND USG AS FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS SHOULD EXCHANGE THOUGHTS AND IDEAS.
5. AS FOR PRESS SPECULATION THAT DAYAN BELIEVES GOI COULD DO MORE THAN IT IS NOW DOING, DINITZ OF OPINION THERE NOTHING MORE ISRAEL COULD DO AT THIS POINT. "ISRAEL IS NOT

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BEING ASKED TO DO ANYTHING NOW EXCEPT PERSIST IN ITS WISH

TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH ITS NEIGHBORS WITHOUT ADVANCE CONDITIONS." THERE NO INITIATIVE RE NEGOTIATIONS IN PAST THAT ISRAEL DID NOT ACCEPT OR IN CERTAIN CASES ITSELF INITIATE; GOI

HAS AGREED TO INDIRECT NEGOTIATIONS AS FIRST STAGE, TO IDEA OF PARTIAL SETTLEMENT, TO PROXIMITY TALKS, TO RHODES-TYPE TALKS, AND TO RESOLUTION 242. HOW CAN ANYONE BLAME ISRAEL FOR CONTINUATION OF DEADLOCK?

6. KISSINGER THOROUGHLY FAMILIAR WITH MIDDLE EAST AND ISRAEL'S PROBLEMS, EVEN THOUGH HE HAS NOT DEALT DIRECTLY WITH THEM IN PAST, AND ONE MAY ASSUME HE WILL SHOW UNDERSTANDING TO ISRAEL IN SPHERE OF MAINTAINING BALANCE OF FORCES IN REGION.

7. US POLICY WILL CONTINUE TO BE BASED ON (A) MAINTENANCE OF BALANCE OF POWER IN AREA, PRESERVING ISRAEL'S DETERRENT TO PREVENT FLAREUP; (B) NO IMPOSITION OF MIDDLE EAST SETTLEMENT FROM OUTSIDE, ESPECIALLY AS THIS WOULD CONVEY POLICING RESPONSIBILITIES TO IMPOSING POWER, WHICH US AFTER VIETNAM SHUNS; AND (C) NEGOTIATION BETWEEN THE PARTIES. PRESIDENT'S SEPT 5 REFERENCE TO BLAME OF BOTH SIDES FOR DEADLOCK AND SISCO REMARK THAT OIL CAN AFFECT US POLICY DO NOT REFLECT US POLICY CHANGE. SUCH STATEMENTS MUST BE EXAMINED IN CONTEXT. KISSINGER IN SENATE TESTIMONY MADE CLEAR US MIDDLE EAST POLICY HAS NOT CHANGED.

I. GOI DOES ALL IT CAN TO ENLIST PUBLIC OPINION TO HELP SOVIET JEWS EMIGRATE, BUT OPPOSES INTERFERENCE IN US INTERNAL AFFAIRS WITH RESPECT TO JACKSON AMENDMENT, NOR DO AMERICANS CONCERNED ABOUT SOVIET JEWRY ASK THAT ISRAEL INTERFERE.
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